

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES J. CASION, CEO  
OF BAKER VICTORY SERVICES,  
UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-  
TIREMENT

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my good friend and colleague James J. Casion as he retires from an impressive and fulfilling career of service. Jim's body of work unquestionably has improved the lives of those among us in need of special services, especially the mentally and physically disabled.

Since 1995, Jim has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Baker Victory Services, an organization that evolved from Father Nelson Baker's extensive social services programs. Today, Baker Victory provides extensive social services including adoption, residential, educational, outpatient, and services for the developmentally disabled. The organization is recognized as a leading institution in the field of behavioral health.

Jim's impact on Baker Victory Services and its predecessor organizations is commendable and noteworthy, as he has served in the Associate or Executive capacity since 1980. His comprehensive knowledge of the institution and its many facilities, built throughout his career, provides him with intimate knowledge of the challenges and best practices in his field.

Jim's passion for providing care and dignity extends into the classroom. His personal educational background includes an associate's degree in Liberal Arts from Orange County Community College, and three degrees and certificates from the University at Buffalo—a bachelor's degree in psychology, a Master's degree in Counseling, and completed a course of Special Study in Community Mental Health and Rehabilitation Counseling. To share his passion and expertise with students of the field, Jim has taught courses serving as an Adjunct Professor at the Canisius College Graduate School of Education, Trocaire College and Erie Community College.

In addition to his work at Baker Victory, Jim has served on countless boards dedicated to improving care in our community and our nation. Some of his past and present appointments and memberships include the Canisius College Graduate School of Education, the Erie County Community Coordinating Council on Children and Families, the Coalition for New York State Children's Mental Health Services, the Child Welfare League of America, Care Management Coalition, Quality Behavioral Health, the National Association for Children's Behavioral Health, the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, the Trauma Informed Community Initiative, and Dopkins and Company.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor my friend Jim Casion and congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement. His

selfless work and compassion is inspiring and I admire his mission to provide all people with quality care so they may lead dignified, fulfilling lives. I am so grateful for his work, and sincerely wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING MS. ANNE M. ELLIS'  
LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO  
THE AMERICAN CONCRETE IN-  
STITUTE

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anne M. Ellis for her volunteer leadership to the American Concrete Institute (ACI), headquartered in Farmington Hills, MI, an organization whose work is fundamental to our nation's critical infrastructure and key to our economic competitiveness. As a Member of Congress, I am privileged and honored to recognize Ms. Ellis for her leadership and lifelong commitment to this organization and to advancing the knowledge of concrete in the United States and abroad.

ACI has been the pioneer in all concrete-related fields: research and development, structural design, architectural design, construction, and product manufacture. With 99 chapters, 65 student chapters, and nearly 20,000 members spanning over 120 countries, ACI provides knowledge and information for the best uses of concrete. Through a host of activities including continuing education, certification, seminars, publications, and conventions, ACI plays an active and vital role in the concrete industry. Core to ACI is the development of codes and standards, adopted for reference in building codes impacting potentially every concrete project in the United States. Additionally, there are some 21 countries worldwide that base part or all of their national building codes on the ACI's 318 Structural Concrete Building Code provisions.

Ms. Ellis will complete her term, as the 90th President of ACI, at ACI's Spring Convention in Reno. Her Presidency was notable for the many accomplishments typified by the new ACI motto: Always Advancing that launched during her term. Her term also bore witness to a new ACI logo, a new ACI website translatable into 70 languages, and the formation of the following ACI committees: Education, Technical and Certification Committee (ETC); International Project Awards Committee (IPAC); Codes & Standards Advisory Committee; as well as launching the Global Chapter Roundtable. These concrete actions support ACI's new strategic plan that sets it on a course for global leadership in the 21st century.

Anne Ellis' service to ACI began long before her presidency. Ms. Ellis has served on ACI's Board of Direction, the Board of the ACI Foundation, as well as numerous other Board and

Technical committees. Working with ACI colleagues, Ms. Ellis helped institute free ACI student e-membership, facilitate ACI's entry into social networking, and establish the Collegiate Concrete Council, the Student and Young Professionals Activities Committee and Sustainability Committees. She was named an ACI Fellow in 2008. Not surprisingly, she has been named by "Concrete Construction" as one of the most influential people in the concrete industry.

Currently, Ms. Ellis is Vice President of Global & Government Initiatives for AECOM, an \$8-billion global provider of professional technical and management support services. In this role, Ms. Ellis drives business-critical initiatives and engages in policy, legislative and regulatory issues affecting AECOM and the clients and markets the company serves. Additionally, Ms. Ellis oversees the day-to-day operations of the AECOM Global Advisory Board, comprised of prominent global leaders who are external to AECOM and highly accomplished in business and geopolitics.

Prior to joining AECOM, Ms. Ellis represented the Portland Cement Association and the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association. On behalf of these industries, she advocated for technical guidelines incorporated into landmark legislation that supported the development and construction of environmentally sustainable building designs. She represented the industries in the development of construction trade and supervisor training and certification programs—now standard in master specifications, with hundreds of thousands certified. Additionally, Ms. Ellis was a structural engineering project manager for numerous noteworthy entertainment, institutional and commercial building projects while at Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas; Martin, Cagley & Middlebrook; Dewberry & Davis; and Ehler/Bryan. Throughout her career, Ms. Ellis taught a variety of classes to undergraduate students, including reinforced concrete design, and continuing education classes to practicing engineers, preparing hundreds of engineers for successful completion of the FE and PE exams.

Ms. Ellis is a 2013 inductee into the Virginia Tech Academy of Engineering Excellence, an elite group composed of only 119 people out of its more than 60,000 living alumni. She is a 2007 inductee into the Virginia Tech Via Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni. She has completed terms on the Virginia Tech College of Engineering Advisory Board and the Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Board, including a term as Chair.

Ms. Ellis serves on the Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC), as an appointee of the Secretary of Commerce. ETTAC provides private-sector advice to 19 federal departments and agencies on federal trade policies and programs concerning the environmental technologies industry.

Ms. Ellis is active in several business and professional organizations. She is a member

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and served as ASCE National Concrete Canoe Competition judge in 2004, 2005, and 2012. She was named an ASCE Fellow in 2013. The author of numerous articles and co-author of the "Concrete Design and Construction" section in the Fifth Edition of the Standard Handbook for Civil Engineers, Ms. Ellis is a frequent speaker at universities, professional societies, and industry forums. She received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, and has been a professional engineer since 1984.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Ms. Anne M. Ellis' leadership and service to the American Concrete Institute.

IN HONOR OF MASTER TROOPER  
ROBERT M. HUNT

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Trooper Robert M. Hunt of North Carolina's State Highway Patrol and thank him for his heroic actions during the snow storm that hit the Southeast.

On February 12, 2014 North Carolina was hit by a dangerous winter storm that obstructed our roadways and threatened the safety of commuters and all North Carolinians. Despite the dangerous conditions, Trooper Hunt remained committed to his duty to keep our highways and our travelers safe.

As a state trooper, Trooper Hunt heroically stands in harm's way and commits his life to the safety of others every single day. We are fortunate to have brave men and women like Trooper Hunt who dedicate and risk their lives for our well-being and security.

Mr. Speaker, Trooper Hunt is a proven leader in our community. I applaud him for his bravery during this hazardous snow storm, and I thank him for his heroic and selfless actions.

HONORING DEMOLAY  
INTERNATIONAL

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize DeMolay International, a youth service organization based out of Missouri's 6th Congressional District, on celebrating its 95th Anniversary.

DeMolay International is an outstanding leadership and philanthropic organization. Since Frank Sherman Land, a business leader and community volunteer, started DeMolay International in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 18, 1919, the organization has grown exponentially. The innovative and charitable work conducted by the organization now touches the lives of millions in all fifty states, as well as, Washington, DC, Canada, Brazil, Uruguay, The Philippines, Australia, Italy, Romania and Serbia. Frank Sherman Land believed in working with others and creating

strong bonds that will last a life time. DeMolay International is sponsored by and works closely with The Masons, which are a philanthropic fraternal organization that brings men together to make better communities through charitable work. Throughout history, DeMolay International has stayed true to its seven values of love of family, respect for other people's beliefs, courtesy towards all, brotherhood, honoring one's promises, cleanness in thought word and deed, and love of country. The men who serve in this organization vow to practice and live their lives by these core beliefs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing DeMolay International for their many contributions to Kansas City and their dedication to service.

HONORING THE TONASKET UNITED  
STATES ARMED FORCES LEGACY  
SITE

### HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those whose vision and hard work have made the United States Armed Forces Legacy Site in Tonasket, Washington, a reality. This site is a touching tribute to the legacy of all of America's veterans—past, present, and future.

In 2006, local veterans George Frank, Roger Castelda, and Ted Huber formed the U.S. Armed Forces Legacy Association in this rural community with the commendable mission of providing a place for veterans and members of the U.S. Armed Forces to be honored, offering a service office for veterans and their families, and presenting a military library for the use and enjoyment of all.

Originally designed by local artist Brad Hughes, the United States Armed Forces Legacy Site was completed on May 18, 2013 in conjunction with the city of Tonasket and with the hard work of many in the community. This inspirational site includes a wall for over 1,000 veterans' plaques, five basalt columns to honor each service branch, a library consisting of the history and wars of the Armed Forces, and a touching mural acknowledging America's military history.

I am pleased to see that the U.S. Armed Forces Legacy Association was named Non-profit Association of the year for 2012 by the Tonasket Chamber of Commerce and named as the best park/playground by the Omak Chronicle.

Through the efforts of numerous volunteers and donors, the United States Armed Forces Legacy Site has been a tremendous success and truly honors those who protect and preserve the values that shaped the character of our nation. I applaud all of those who made the site what it is today and look forward to future generations being able to show their respect to our America heroes.

CONGRATULATING DONALD C.  
ROBINETT

### HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Donald C. Robinett, or "Robby" as he is endearingly referred to by his colleagues, on the occasion of his 97th birthday. It is with great enthusiasm that I join his family and friends in celebrating this milestone and the life of Mr. Robinett, a World War II veteran and among the last of the Pearl Harbor veterans living in Ventura County.

Born in Oxnard, California and now a resident of Oak View, California, Mr. Robinett served in the United States Navy from 1935 to 1945 and served on the USS *Tracy* for over five decades.

On that fateful day of December 7, 1941, Mr. Robinett was below deck when the first bombs hit. His experiences and flashbacks of the events that unfolded that tragic morning aboard the USS *Tracy* remain intact. For over 72 years, the vivid memories of the attack on Pearl Harbor still remain with Mr. Robinett. His courage, bravery, and service during one of our Nation's most historic moments, are an example of the characteristics that define the people that have come to be known as the Greatest Generation.

Honorably discharged on September 1, 1945, Mr. Robinett's career includes 10 years in the Navy and even without a day of leave, he was able to marry Eunice Hegna in Las Vegas in 1945. Donald and Eunice had 8 children.

I want to sincerely thank Mr. Robinett for his service and recognize his unwavering commitment, not only to our country, but to the freedoms and liberties that we hold so dear today. As a country and as people united, we will be forever grateful.

It is my honor to offer my sincere congratulations to Mr. Robinett on this special occasion. I wish him a very happy birthday and many more years of continued health and happiness.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE THERAPY CHOIRS OF MICHIGAN'S ANNUAL "CAPITOL CONCERT" DURING MICHIGAN THERAPY CHOIR AWARENESS WEEK

### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Therapy Choirs of Michigan, a nonprofit organization based in Farmington Hills. This year, the Therapy Choirs of Michigan is preparing for its fifteenth annual "Capitol Concert" in Lansing, a remarkable achievement and great milestone in its history.

Created in 1998 by Len McCulloch, Therapy Choirs of Michigan was founded with a mission of bringing together members of the community affected by similar disabilities and challenges to provide them with opportunities support each other through artistic vocal expression. While providing the public with entertainment, Therapy Choirs of Michigan seeks to

provide its members and their families with a fun and therapeutic experience that will inspire them in their recovery, as well as raise awareness for the disabilities and challenges faced by its members. Engaging its members in a traditional "a cappella" format, Therapy Choirs of Michigan has developed choirs tailored to youth, seniors, individuals with developmental disabilities and veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq. For each of its choirs, Therapy Choirs of Michigan provides a supportive environment of structured rehearsals that allows its members to maximize the development of improved self-esteem and building of enhanced social skills.

Over the last fifteen years, the members of Therapy Choirs of Michigan have performed at over 160 concerts across the state while sharing their creativity, resilience, and artistry with others. They have been featured by local television stations and newspapers in the Greater Detroit area for the impact they are making, which includes donation drives that provided the Historic Detroit Rescue Mission with clothing that helped nearly 3,000 Michigan residents in-need. The efforts of its members have earned the Therapy Choirs of Michigan recognition from numerous organizations, including the Farmington Community Arts Council for outstanding achievement in the performing arts. And most recently, the work and impact of the Therapy Choirs of Michigan was recognized by the Michigan House of Representatives, which proclaimed the first week of March to be Therapy Choir Awareness Week across the entire state.

Mr. Speaker, Therapy Choirs of Michigan and its members have demonstrated the incredible resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity and remarkable courage to share their stories and raise awareness of their experiences with residents across the state. It is my honor to recognize and congratulate Len McCulloch and members of the Therapy Choirs of Michigan for the remarkable impact they are making on communities across the state and I wish them continued success and growth as they prepare for their annual "Capitol Concert" in Lansing.

#### NATIONAL MARFAN AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as National Marfan Awareness Month on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of Americans affected by Marfan syndrome and related heritable connective tissue disorders across the country.

It is important to raise awareness of Marfan syndrome and related heritable disorders, which are rare genetic conditions. The signs of these conditions include long arms and legs, curved spine, a concave or convex chest, flexible joints, and flat feet. Some patients may display the features of these conditions from birth while others may develop them later in life.

Knowing the signs and features are important and can save lives. The heart is often affected too, which can lead to aortic enlargement and dissection, and sudden death. An

early and accurate diagnosis, regular monitoring, and, in some cases, therapies or medical interventions are necessary to prevent cardiac events.

I am proud to represent the Port Washington, NY-based Marfan Foundation, which leads the effort to improve the lives of individuals affected by heritable connective tissue disorders. This year marks Carolyn Levering's 20th anniversary as President and CEO of the Foundation. Under her leadership, the Foundation has grown into an effective and compassionate organization. As a result of her dedication and the hard work of the Foundation, medical research has been advanced, treatments and diagnostic tools have been discovered, patient care has improved and, most importantly, lives have been saved.

I understand Carolyn recently announced plans to step down from her executive role at the Marfan Foundation next year. When the Foundation's Founder, Priscilla Ciccariello, first tapped Carolyn to lead the organization into the next century, there is no way she could've known just how far the heritable connective tissue disorder community could come in just two decades.

During this Marfan Awareness Month, I call on my colleagues to reflect on the progress that Carolyn, Priscilla, and the Marfan Foundation have made, and to ask themselves what they can do on behalf of their Marfan-affected constituents to ensure that the next twenty years are just as encouraging as the previous two decades.

#### 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HORRIFIC ATTACK AGAINST ARMENIANS

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, the 27th of February marks the 26th anniversary of the horrific attack against Armenians in the town of Sumgait in Soviet Azerbaijan. Dozens of Armenians were killed and hundreds more were wounded. During the pogrom, Armenian women and children were raped, people were set on fire and beaten to death, while police stood by unwilling or unable to intervene.

The violence touched off a broader attack against Azerbaijan's ethnic Armenians, ultimately resulting in a war with Nagorno-Karabakh in which tens of thousands of people were killed. The conflict remains unresolved today and the military blockade of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic continues. The pogroms precipitated a massive refugee situation displacing hundreds of thousands of people, virtually eliminating Azerbaijan's once-significant Armenian population.

Mr. Speaker, as people of conscience, this is a remembrance we must all engage in. For me, it is also a very personal remembrance. My own family fled the slaughter of the Armenian Genocide under the Ottomans, and when we learned of the massacres against Armenians in 1988, we saw history repeating itself. These vicious acts of murder, targeted at ethnic groups, must be forcefully condemned whenever and wherever we see them.

Without our recognition and our forceful condemnation, the cycle of violence will con-

tinue. Even today, Christians and other minority groups are being driven from Syria by extremists, and the once large and diverse ethnic mosaic there is all but eradicated. Without our attention and action by the world community, there will be no end in sight.

Today, Mr. Speaker, let us remember the Armenians who lost their lives in Azerbaijan 26 years ago. And then let us take up the work that our principles demand of us, standing united against ethnic violence, discrimination, extremism and brutality, wherever we find it.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE AMY HATHAWAY'S SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF DETROIT AND WAYNE COUNTY

#### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Honorable Amy P. Hathaway, a judge on the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan in Wayne County, who is retiring from the bench after nearly two decades of service.

Judge Hathaway's service to the people of Southeast Michigan began more than twenty years ago, when she joined the Wayne County Corporation Counsel as Assistant Corporation Counsel. In this role, Judge Hathaway undertook plaintiff and defense litigation matters in county, state and federal courts, as well as oversaw the drafting of county ordinances and review of tax matters. After two years of work for Wayne County, Judge Hathaway was elected the Third Circuit Court of Michigan, with jurisdiction over matters of equity, civil claims in excess of \$25,000 and matters involving felony violation of Michigan's criminal statutes. Prior to her public service, Judge Hathaway worked as a paralegal for Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP and as an associate at Dykema Gossett PLLC following her graduation from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in May 1987.

While serving on the bench, Judge Hathaway has been recognized by numerous community organizations for her accessibility and conduct. In 2012, the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association gave her an outstanding rating and cited her as among the most accessible and friendly judges on the Third Circuit Court. Additionally, Dbusiness Magazine named Judge Hathaway one of its Top Circuit Court Judges in 2013. Throughout her career, Judge Hathaway is an active member of the State Bar of Michigan and has served on its Constitutional Law Committee. She has also served as a member of the Governor's Task Force on Justice for Children and was elected by her peers to the Board of Directors of the Barristers of Detroit Bar Association, where she was named its Barrister of Year in 1991. Judge Hathaway has also taken on responsibilities as a mentor to the interns that have worked in her office.

In addition to her commitment to serving the residents of Wayne County, Judge Hathaway has remained a proud and dedicated mother to her three adult children and a strong partner for her husband, the Honorable David Groner, who also serves as a judge on the Third Circuit Court of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, as Judge Hathaway prepares to embark upon a new chapter on her life, I congratulate her and thank her for her many years of service to the people of Wayne County. Over her more than two decades of public service, Judge Hathaway has developed expertise and experience that will cause her to be greatly missed in the court room.

WELCOMING THE CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS' SISTER CITY, SHIBEI DISTRICT OF QINGDAO OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

### HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the City of Thousand Oaks, California, who will be welcoming its sister city, Shibe District of Qingdao of the People's Republic of China, for their first visit to the Conejo Valley on February 27, 2014.

Formally approved on July 9, 2013, the Thousand Oaks City Council unanimously accepted the concept of Thousand Oaks, California and Shibe District, Qingdao as sister cities. The relationship between the two cities has a mission to create an environment for promoting and developing effective and mutually beneficial cooperation between the citizens of both municipalities. It is a harmonious relationship in which both parties conduct reciprocal cultural, educational, business, professional and technical exchanges. The friendly cooperation between both cities is based on the principles of mutual respect of the partners and the sovereignty of each state.

With a large Asian-American population presence in the Conejo Valley, community leaders, in collaboration with the Center for Asian Performing Arts, conceptualized the idea of a sister city relationship with China to promote Asian culture and support the cultural exchange between East and West.

There are many shared interests and commonalities among the two cities which makes it an ideal partnership. While Thousand Oaks was named among the top ten safest large cities in the United States, Shibe District, Qingdao was named among the top ten livable cities with the most beautiful bay in China. Additionally, both cities have developed in the areas of technology.

Among the delegation members that will visit the Conejo Valley are the mayor of the Shibe District, the directors of the Bureau of Tourism and of the Bureau of Economic Development, and the deputy chief of staff for the Department of Commerce. On this momentous occasion, the mayors of both cities will sign documents declaring their formal relationship.

I want to congratulate Thousand Oaks and Shibe District on this momentous occasion and look forward to the future accomplishments and successes that this relationship will foster.

### PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

### HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2014*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, in 2005 I supported a similar version of this bill that was truly bipartisan and aimed at reversing a Supreme Court decision, *Kelo v. City of New London*. In that decision, the Court upheld the right of New London to take private property and transfer it to another private individual for the purpose of increasing the tax revenue of the city. The House passed that bill (H.R. 4128) by a vote of 376–38, but the Senate never took up H.R. 4128.

Unfortunately, the version before us today goes much farther than the more narrowly tailored 2005 bill. H.R. 1944 would bar any form of eminent domain related to generating economic activity. Such a sweeping approach is contrary to the Constitution and to our history.

The rights of property owners were so important to our nation's founders that they enshrined property rights in our Constitution. However, the Founders knew that towns and municipalities would need to look after the greater public good and occasionally acquire property with just compensation to the owners in order to use that property for public good. The power of eminent domain has enabled us to make many advances over the years. It was used to create the national railroad system, the interstate highway system, and make telephone, electric, sewer, and water lines available to all our communities. Eminent domain, when used properly, is a critical power of government that has benefited people in New Jersey and across America. This bill would eviscerate this power, and for that reason I cannot support this bill in its current form.

### TAXPAYERS RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2014*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the "Taxpayer Right-to-Know-Act."

The Taxpayer Right-to-Know Act would require all federal agencies to describe, in detail, all programs under their agency, their costs, the number of employees running each program, and possible duplication. Reports would be due each year.

Agencies would also have to publish performance reviews and improper payment rates. OMB would then analyze the reports for overlapping programs and provide concrete recommendations on how to reduce duplication and waste.

This bill would ensure greater transparency, enhance scrutiny of taxpayer dollars, and help deliver better value to the American people.

The Taxpayer Right-to-Know Act is about transparency, fiscal responsibility, and finding solution to right-size the government for the American people.

### REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE MARCUS EUGENE COLLINS, SR.

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man, veteran, and outstanding public servant, the Honorable Marcus Eugene Collins, Sr. Sadly, Marcus passed away on Friday, February 14, 2014, at the age of 87. The funeral service was held on Monday, February 17, 2014, at 3 p.m., in the chapel of Jamerson-Braswell Funeral Home in Pelham, Georgia.

Born on January 25, 1927, in Albany, Georgia, Marcus spent most of his life in Pelham, Georgia. As a veteran of World War II, Marcus honorably and courageously served his country.

Marcus was also dedicated to serving his local community in Georgia. He represented Pelham in the Georgia House of Representatives for twenty years and served as Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. After his time in the House of Representatives, Marcus was appointed Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Revenue. He served in this capacity from 1983 until his retirement in 1996. Later, Marcus was appointed Executive Director of the Tobacco Community Development Board.

Hailed by his friends and family as a true Southern gentleman, Marcus was a "mover and shaker" in the community. He was ahead of his time, a true innovator, and a crucial player in South Georgia leadership. He was an inspiring mentor to me and to many others and the great legacy he leaves to all of us is the faithful and dedicated life he led.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Marcus is undoubtedly great because of his distinguished service to his community, devotion to his work, and the compassion he showed for his friends and loved ones.

Marcus is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; children, Elizabeth, Marcus, David, Jennifer, and Rebecca; and thirteen grandchildren. He was a devoted member of Lake Pleasant Baptist Church in Pelham, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the Collins family and we pray that they be encouraged by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit during the coming days, weeks, and months ahead. I also ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the Honorable Marcus Eugene Collins, Sr., and his legacy of service to the city of Pelham and State of Georgia. He loved the people of Mitchell County and he was committed to making the community prosperous and to improving the quality of life. He will truly be missed.

### IN RECOGNITION OF RONALD DAVIS

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ronald Davis who has been East Palo Alto's

Police Chief for the last nine years and served on Oakland's Police Department for 19 years before that. Chief Davis has demonstrated outstanding leadership and innovation in reducing crime and increasing public trust through community policing efforts and partnerships with other agencies.

His talent and skills didn't go unnoticed nationally and Chief Davis was appointed by Attorney General Eric Holder to lead the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, at the U.S. Department of Justice. In his new capacity, Director Davis supports law enforcement allies across the country, including the East Palo Alto Police Department.

Chief Davis led East Palo Alto—once known as the murder capital of the United States—out of one of the worst crime crises in the country. He launched a first of its kind partnership between a city and the State. The East Palo Alto Police Department partnered with the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation to implement a parole-reentry program that provided programming and enforcement services and a job program with the California Department of Transportation. The results were amazing: the return-to-custody rates dropped from more than 60 percent to less than 20 percent.

Chief Davis also worked closely with local church leaders and social service providers. He rehabilitated gang members by offering job and drug counseling along with medical care to them in exchange for giving up their criminal activities. He understood and was an integral part of his community.

His optimism and drive to improve the system have guided his life and career. Davis earned his Bachelor of Science from Southern Illinois University and completed the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

He has co-authored multiple publications, including the National Institute of Justice's "Exploring the Role of the Police in Prisoner Reentry," the Department of Justice's "How to Correctly Collect and Analyze Racial Profiling Data: Your Reputation Depends on It," and the Police Executive Research Forum's "Chief Concerns: The Use of Force."

In 2003, a San Mateo County Grand Jury report deemed the East Palo Alto police force poorly trained and management unaccountable. Chief Davis turned that around and leaves behind a well-trained department.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Davis will be deeply missed by the residents of East Palo Alto, but he will continue his support of our community from Washington, DC, where he will continue his tireless fight for justice as the director of the Community Oriented Policing Services Office in the U.S. Department of Justice.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SUMGAI, KIROVABAD AND BAKU MAS-SACRES

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, 26 years ago today was the first day in a three-day pogrom

perpetrated against the Armenian residents of Sumgait in then-Soviet Azerbaijan. Although official figures reported 30 deaths, it is believed that hundreds were murdered and injured as a result of the pogrom.

Just a week before the violence erupted, the Armenians of Nagorno Karabakh voted to unify region with Armenia—the beginning of the Karabakh movement. In the days immediately after this vote Azeri civilians and local officials in the city of Sumgait held rallies calling for "death to Armenians".

On the night of February 27, 1988, Armenian residents in Sumgait were targeted and indiscriminately raped, mutilated and murdered. Calls for help from Armenians were ignored by local police and city officials. Journalists were shut out from the area. The violence raged on for three days before Soviet troops were able to put an end to the pogrom.

Witnesses of the horrific massacres later testified that the attacks were planned, as civilians had gathered weapons and the exits of the cities were blocked in advance to prevent Armenians from escaping. The homes of Armenians were marked so that the Azeri mobs could easily target them.

Unfortunately, the perpetrators of the pogrom succeeded in their ultimate goal—driving out Armenians. Fearing more violence, Armenians fled Sumgait. Later that year, another anti-Armenian pogrom occurred in Kirovabad, Azerbaijan from November 21st to 27th, which also forced hundreds of Armenians to flee the region. In January of 1990 violent mobs targeted the Armenian community of Azerbaijan's capital, Baku.

I would like to honor the memory of Armenians killed in the pogroms of Sumgait, Kirovabad, and Baku. If we hope to stop future massacres, we must acknowledge these horrific events and ensure they do not happen again.

This month also marked the 10th anniversary of the heinous murder of Armenian Army Lieutenant Gurgen Margaryan at a NATO training camp in Budapest, by Ramil Safarov, a Lieutenant of the Azerbaijani Army. Safarov used an axe to hack Margaryan to death while he was sleeping. After being convicted of murder by Hungarian courts, he was transferred to Azerbaijan where he was immediately pardoned and given a hero's welcome. Several Azerbaijan government officials have hailed Safarov's actions as patriotism. This is unacceptable, and the international community should hold Azerbaijan accountable for this.

Recognizing the ethnic-cleansing of the Armenians from Azerbaijan is an important step. However, we need to do more—we need to demonstrate to Azerbaijan that the United States is committed to peace and to the protection of Artsakh from coercion.

We must call for an end to all threats and acts of coercion by Azerbaijan's government against the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

Congress should strengthen Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act by removing the President's ability to waive U.S. law prohibiting aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. In 1992, Congress prohibited aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. However, in 2001, Congress approved a waiver to this provision and administrations have used

the waiver since then to provide aid to Baku. Azerbaijan should not be provided aid from the United States as long as they continue a policy of threats and blockades against Artsakh.

I urge the Administration to remove all barriers to broad-based U.S.-Nagorno-Karabakh governmental and civil society communication, travel and cooperation.

HONORING REV. CRAWFORD W. KIMBLE, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, PASTOR EMERITUS OF GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Crawford W. Kimble, Pastor Emeritus of Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, which originated in Freedmen's Town in 1872.

Reverend Kimble died earlier this week in Houston at the age of 95. He will be laid to rest on Saturday, March 1, 2014.

Rev. Kimble, the fifth of six pastors at Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, served as Pastor for approximately 35 years. His dream of building Good Hope in its current location (3015 North MacGregory Way) was fulfilled in 1981.

Rev. Kimble was born in Elgin, Texas on March 24, 1918 and he followed the ministerial paths of both his father and grandfather. He began preaching at the age of 33.

Rev. Kimble joined Good Hope Baptist Church in 1951; he preached his first sermon there in 1959; and he later became pastor to many prominent Texans, namely Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, the first African American United States Congresswoman from the South, and Dr. Lonnie Smith, who played an important role in minority voting rights in primary elections.

It is astounding to find that prior to Rev. Kimble's calling into the ministry, he worked as a newspaper editor and writer! His career began as the managing editor with the Houston Informer, Houston's oldest African American newspaper; and it ended with the Kansas City Call.

After more than 30 years in retirement, Rev. Kimble continued to write and publish books. He worked out of his second floor office and living quarters, a Fourth Ward senior citizen apartment complex which was developed and named after him on April 5, 2007: Crawford W. Kimble Senior Living, located at 1025 Saulnier Street, in Fourth Ward, Texas.

Rev. Kimble's works include books entitled "Watch the Tree it Might Fall on You, which he wrote and published at age 80; "The Adventures of Love: God's plan for a Victorious Life for His People", which he wrote and published at age 90; and "God at Work", his most recent publication, which answers the attacks of Rush Limbaugh on our President, President Barack Obama.

Rev. Kimble was a great man who touched the lives of all who met him. He will be missed.

# COMMEMORATING THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

## HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 22nd anniversary of the Khojaly tragedy which took place on February 25–26, 1992, when the town of Khojaly in the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan was attacked by Armenian forces. Khojaly, which was home to 7,000 people, was completely destroyed; a total of 613 people were killed.

As the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict still remains unresolved, the U.S. must increase its efforts to facilitate the resolution to the conflict in accordance with international law. Congress must also recognize that the current status quo is dangerous and a solution to the conflict is necessary to allow hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijani IDPs to return to their homes. There is no doubt that a settlement of this protracted conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan would let this region realize its huge potential and become prosperous.

Mr. Speaker, as Azerbaijan, a tested and proven strategic partner of the United States, commemorates the 22nd anniversary of the Khojaly massacre this year, I call on my colleagues in Congress to speak up on this tragedy and stand with the Azerbaijani people.

# PROTECTING TAXPAYERS FROM INTRUSIVE IRS REQUESTS ACT

SPEECH OF

## HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2014*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the “Protecting Taxpayers from Intrusive IRS Requests Act”.

Many of my constituents in the 24th District of Texas—some of whom were unfairly targeted by the IRS—have lost confidence in the impartiality of the agency.

Due to the political targeting scandal, my constituents are deeply skeptical about the IRS and angry at how they have been treated.

I fully agree with their concerns: the IRS has been blatantly too intrusive on my constituents’ personal lives and of many other Americans around the country.

Americans should always be protected from unnecessary and intrusive questions about their political, religious, and social beliefs.

On behalf of my constituents, I respectfully urge members to help protect American taxpayers and vote for this bill.

# HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. LANCELOT THOMPSON

## HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during Black History month, I rise today to recognize Lan-

celot C.A. Thompson of Toledo, Ohio. Toledo Blade newspaper reporter Federico Martinez wrote about Dr. Thompson when a room at the University of Toledo was dedicated in his name recently.

A chemistry instructor, Dr. Thompson was the first African American professor hired by the University of Toledo, in 1958. He explained his initial reception to the reporter: while driving to work through what was considered a white neighborhood, “The police would pull me over and accuse me of failing to stop at the stop sign. ‘What are you doing over here?’ the police would ask me. When I told them I was faculty at the university, they would call me a liar and give me a ticket.” Arriving on campus the reception was no better. School security would try to stop him from entering the faculty parking lot. Sometimes they would threaten him; other times they would mock him for claiming that he, a black man, was a professor. “They tried to stop me from parking in the lot,” Dr. Thompson said. “But I did anyways.”

Dr. Thompson retired from the University of Toledo in 1998 after 40 years of teaching. He recently returned to campus for a special honor: the unveiling of the Lancelot C.A. Thompson Meeting Room in the University of Toledo’s Student Union. At the ceremony, University of Toledo Athletic Director Mike O’Brien noted, “Over the years, Lance has been an adviser, a mentor, and most of all, a friend to many of our student-athletes.” Among the over one hundred attendees was Dr. Thompson’s longtime friend John C. Moore who said the recognition was both overdue and well-deserved. He explained that Dr. Thompson was a pioneer who paved the way for other African American professionals at the university. “He is such an intelligent gentleman who is really concerned about the fate of his fellow man. He’s very educated and still wants to learn something new every day. He’s fearless, and he makes it look so easy.”

Lancelot Thompson was born and raised in Jamaica. His parents were teachers. He was an accomplished athlete who competed in the broad jump and 400-sprint relay during the 1946 Pan American Games held in Barranquilla, Colombia, and again during the games held in Guatemala. Both times he took second-place honors in the competition. He was a 24-year-old high school teacher when he received track scholarship offers from Morgan State University in Maryland and Tennessee State University. He recalled, “Many people in Jamaica, they told me, go to Morgan State; they will lynch you in Tennessee.”

So he boarded a plane for Morgan State University and it didn’t take long for Dr. Thompson to be introduced to American racism and discrimination. “Jamaica is a biracial country, so we didn’t have those problems,” he said. “In Jamaica, it’s more about class issues. The first time I got to an airport I saw no black people, so I started to look for a place to sit down. A black janitor came over and told me I wasn’t allowed to sit in that section. He sent me to another part of the airport where other black people were. That was my first experience in America.”

The airport experience was just the beginning of more to come. The reporter writes that upon boarding a train to Baltimore he was dragged and deposited in the “black coach” section of the train. “Everybody in there were black southerners,” Dr. Thompson said. “I didn’t understand a single word they said.”

In spite of the racism, Lancelot Thompson earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Morgan State in 1952 and a doctorate in physics and inorganic chemistry from Wayne State University in 1955. He went home to Jamaica with the goal of “trying to revolutionize the way we were teaching chemistry. The school books in Jamaica were old and outdated, and it was difficult to get the ‘powers-that-be’ to understand how much chemistry had changed over the years.”

In 1957 Dr. Thompson attended a job fair in New York. He explained to the reporter that he applied for and received numerous interview requests. He soon realized that was because potential employers didn’t know he was black. “A guy from Alabama, when he saw me, he turned so red I thought he was going to have a heart attack. ‘You know where Alabama is, don’t you?’ the man asked me. ‘Yes sir,’ I told him. ‘You know we probably don’t want you,’ he said. ‘I probably don’t want to go,’ I said.”

When Dr. Thompson applied for the University of Toledo job, he included a photo so there would be no surprises. The person who interviewed and hired him, Jerome Kloucek, dean of the arts college, never mentioned race, Dr. Thompson recalled in the newspaper feature. “Some of the faculty was a little uncomfortable, but I was comfortable. I was used to being around white people.”

In addition to teaching chemistry, Dr. Thompson created the university’s first track team. More importantly, he started the annual Aspiring Minorities Youth Conference. He served as assistant dean for undergraduate study in the college of arts and sciences from 1964–66, becoming the dean of student services from 1966–68. He was then promoted to vice president of student affairs, from which he retired in 1988. He retired as a teacher in 1998. Along the way, in 1964, Dr. Thompson was voted the school’s Outstanding Teacher.

It was always important to Dr. Thompson to mentor young people, especially African American young people. He explained, “Being the only black faculty at the university for four years, I had to be a mentor. There was nobody else for them. It didn’t matter if it was a black, white, Hispanic, or Asian student, my job was to teach and mentor all students.” Explaining he was even harder on African American students Dr. Thompson said, “Oh yes, I was hard on them. I made sure they did the work. I was harder on them than the other students because I knew they had to be a little better than the whites to get the job. You had to be prepared.”

Lancelot Thompson’s legacy is carried on in those students and all those he taught. His footprint on the school carries forth through today. We salute his spirit, his tenacity and his courage even as we offer thanks for all he has given to decades of University of Toledo students and our community. Thank you always, Dr. Lancelot Thompson.

# A TRIBUTE TO MRS. BARBARA FEATHERSON

## HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding North Carolinian, Mrs. Barbara Featherston, who has

served the Social Security Agency in Whiteville, North Carolina, for forty years. Mrs. Feathersen's service began in 1974, when she was hired for a part-time administrative position. Consistent hard work and dedication earned her the position of District Manager, and she has worked every day to provide peace of mind to North Carolinians as they prepare to retire. She has committed herself to bettering her community, and I ask you to Mrs. Feathersen's enduring commitment to her community makes her an exemplary public servant, and her accomplishments will continue to benefit North Carolina for many years to come. As her time as District Manager comes to a close, let us honor Mrs. Barbara Feathersen's long and honorable career and pray that she may receive God's richest blessings.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2014  
FLOOR SPEECH

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the unique history, terrible sacrifices, and remarkable contributions that African Americans have made to build our great nation.

Black History Month calls out to all Americans to join together as we advance the unfinished march towards greater diversity and full equality for all.

151 years ago, the Emancipation Proclamation, an executive order issued by President Abraham Lincoln, freed the slaves in all states that were in rebellion against the Union, and established a broad legal framework for the future.

And just like present day executive orders issued by this administration . . . President Lincoln's action set off a fire storm of criticism from those who hated him, and thought he had acted beyond his constitutional powers.

But President Lincoln was not deterred by the vicious and vile uproar from his political opponents. Like all great leaders at pivotal moments in our Nation's history, President Lincoln ignored the politics of the moment and followed the moral compass of history.

He chose the path of courage, he chose the path not taken, in order to advance the cause of freedom.

51 years ago, hundreds of thousands of Americans, both black and white, joined together for the historic March on Washington. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stood in the shadow of the Great Emancipator, he declared in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech—"We have come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now."

Tonight, we should hear those words again. Absorb them. Live them.

As we look back on the accomplishments of the past, let us remember that the fierce urgency of now still calls us to act boldly . . . with courage.

Equality is not to be put on hold. And the hopes of millions who have been left out of the American dream, must not be delayed or denied.

46 years ago, my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, was elected as the first African-American U.S. Representative from Missouri.

He used his experience as a civil rights activist who had been wrongly incarcerated for fighting for his beliefs—to provide a strong voice for his constituents for more than three decades, and he was one of the original 13 cofounders of the Congressional Black Caucus.

One of the St. Louis's first legendary black entrepreneurs, Miss Annie Malone, the daughter of escaped slaves, inspired people around the world as she became a black beauty product millionaire. She was a noted inventor, educator and businesswoman. And she became one of America's first prominent black philanthropists.

As we praise the achievements of these great American heroes, we are reminded of the obligation to honor all of the brave souls who have come before us . . . and to rededicate ourselves to bring honor to their memories by the quality and conduct of our own lives. We learn from and continue to be inspired by our compelling history.

But the past does not limit us. It compels us to continue the long journey towards a most just, more equal society.

That is a Black History Month lesson that everyone across the great country, and in this historic Chamber, should embrace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, I missed one vote in a series of recorded votes. I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 64 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1123, as amended).

HONORING GOOD360

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the organization Good360. Companies like Good360 support philanthropy in a variety of ways—cash grants, marketing consultations, and employee volunteerism, just to name a few.

More than ever before, companies are using their core resources to support community-based partners. Driven by the desire to maximize giving while minimizing waste, the majority of growth in the nonprofit sector has come from the donation of household items that directly impact the needs of American families.

For-profit America plays an important role in addressing poverty, literacy and education, homelessness and many other social issues facing our country. The millions of nonprofit organizations across America rely on the donations of critically needed goods to continue the programs that are essential to helping those with uncertain futures get back on their feet. These programs are integral to strengthening our communities.

Giving is not just restricted to consumer staples. Consumer discretionary companies and

information technology companies also make sizable proportions of their contributions in the form of non-cash donations. Their corporate sustainability efforts maximize giving to American families and minimize the amount of unused or reusable goods going to landfills.

With more than one in six Americans living in poverty and nonprofits struggling to maintain programs following significant federal and state budget cuts, the American business community plays a critical role in supporting the nonprofit programs needed to ensure that people and families in need overcome the challenges they face and are better able to pursue the American Dream.

This month, let us look to a time when more businesses give back by donating goods to support people in need, to strengthen the communities in which they do business, and to reduce the amount of products that go into our landfills.

I call upon all American companies and nonprofit organizations—small and large—to participate in activities that provide donated goods that are essential to strengthening communities across our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Good360's contributions to the betterment of our community and the American people, and I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their continued service.

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

**HON. ALBIO SIRES**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, raising the minimum wage is a critical step in closing the opportunity gap and building an economy that works for everyone. Yesterday, I joined my Democratic colleagues in filing a discharge petition for an immediate vote on H.R. 1010 to raise the minimum wage to \$10.10, generating economic activity, creating jobs, and growing the middle class.

By raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour, we can restore fairness for working men and women across the country. Specifically it would raise wages for nearly 25 million people; increase pay and compensation by \$35 billion for hardworking American families; and lift between 1 and 4.5 million Americans out of poverty.

Americans deserve an economy where a hard days' work earns a decent day's pay. No hard working American should be forced to raise their family in poverty, but the low minimum wage currently allows for just that. An increase in the minimum wage is not only the moral thing to do, but it would also provide a much-needed boost to our economy. Simply put, when one earns more, one tends to spend more. More and more private businesses are voluntarily raising the minimum wage of their workers because they see the long-term economic benefits.

It is my hope that Congress takes immediate and swift action in raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour.



HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF  
THE LUCERNE INN**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Lucerne Inn as it celebrates its bicentennial.

In the early 1800s, Nathan Phillips built a family home in Dedham, Maine, overlooking Phillips Lake, on land granted to John Phillips for his service in the Revolutionary War. Conveniently situated as the only stop on the road connecting the Brewer and Bangor area to Ellsworth and other points Down East, by 1814, the home quickly became a popular location for travelers of all stripes to stay and enjoy a meal. This led to the eventual transformation of the home into The Lucerne Inn.

Over the years, The Lucerne Inn has made a number of changes to include modern amenities while also maintaining its 19th century charm. The Inn currently has 31 rooms overlooking Phillips Lake and the scenic Dedham Hills. Each room includes a flat screen television, gas fireplace, and a heated towel bar. The Inn also features several dining areas that offer a diverse menu of progressive American cuisine and an award-winning wine collection. Bordering the Inn is the Lucerne-in-Maine Golf Course, which offers discounted rates and packages to guests of the Inn.

The Inn plays host to numerous weddings each year, as well as its annual October bridal show, which is attended by more than 100 brides. Additionally, many memorial ceremonies, Christmas parties, baby showers and business meetings choose The Lucerne Inn as their venue. Accommodations such as free wifi, LCD projectors and flip charts are available for such events.

To commemorate The Lucerne Inn's bicentennial, the owners, Steve and Rhonda Jones, are planning several special events and deals for guests and patrons of the Inn. These events include a public open house, wine and menu specials priced at \$18.14, and special rates for guests. I am delighted to recognize the accomplishments of this wonderful establishment and look forward to its continued success in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating The Lucerne Inn on its bicentennial.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,419,220,117,766.69. We've added \$6,792,343,068,853.61 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

## HONORING JERRY DENBO

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the death, but more importantly celebrate the life of Jerry L. Denbo, a beloved friend and father. Jerry died at 63 on February 24, 2014.

Jerry Denbo was a genuine Hoosier man. He grew up in Bedford, Indiana where he went to high school. At Indiana University he graduated with a Master's in Education, and worked at two high schools before becoming the State Representative for District 62. Jerry retired from his General Assembly position in 2007 after 17 years of service.

Jerry Denbo was a fierce advocate for the communities he served. For many years Jerry fought to bring casino gaming to French Lick and was ultimately successful, bringing much needed economic assistance and employment to the area. Jerry had a great love for working for the state of Indiana, and brought warmth and humor to his service.

Jerry Denbo exemplified the greatness of the Hoosier spirit. His memory will live on in the prosperity he contributed to the state of Indiana.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JEANNE  
A. CONRY**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Jeanne A. Conry, President of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, who made major contributions to the betterment of women's health throughout her long and successful career.

The initiatives she has undertaken guarantee profound improvements in women's health.

Dr. Conry began her tenure as ACOG President by applauding the Affordable Care Act's priority on women's health, asserting that, "By investing in this generation, we have invested in the next." She called on America's 58,000 ob-gyns and partners in women's health to "lead the changes that are before us, because we are truly the leaders in women's healthcare."

Dr. Conry's theme during her Presidency has been "Every Woman, Every Time," a reminder to her profession and to us all that at every contact in our health care system, reproductive health choices and well-woman care are a necessity.

Her work urges recognition that socioeconomic, demographic, biologic and behavioral differences among women can impact reproductive outcomes greatly.

As part of her leadership, Dr. Conry developed the National Maternal Health Initiative, a partnership to bring together leaders in public and private health policy to improve maternal health outcomes. It includes ACOG; the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM); the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses; the American College of

Nurse-Midwives; Merck for Mothers; and the Maternal Child Health Branch of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Conry has pointed to the successful focus on newborn outcomes that show fetal and infant mortality have decreased by almost 30 percent in the past three decades. Her research shows that maternal mortality has actually increased, however, and in some states by almost 50 percent. Her conclusions reveal African-American women have a maternal mortality rate up to four times higher than white women. These significant findings will improve pregnancy outcomes for generations to come.

Dr. Conry's efforts emphasize the reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality through access to contraception planning, and ensuring safety in maternity care. Her initiatives have led to better outcomes through life-course planning, obesity and exercise awareness, and redesigning the postpartum visit to optimize future health and pregnancy outcomes.

She has established a process to regionalize care so that women at high risk deliver at hospitals that can meet their needs. The initiative has gone toward identifying and implementing protocols for maternity risk conditions such as hemorrhaging, hypertension, thromboembolism, cardiac disease, and sepsis.

Dr. Conry has called on all leaders in maternity care to guide this change in women's health care. Her career has also been dedicated to better understanding and investigating how the environment impacts reproductive health by proposing a broader analysis of the health effects that pharmaceuticals, diet, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, radiation and chemicals in the environment have on women.

Her leadership and legacy extend to improving women's health by initiating partnerships to facilitate coordination and harmonization of clinical guidelines in Great Britain, Canada, the United States and other ob-gyn societies. These guidelines now provide direction for maternal health programs as well as the practice of obstetrics and gynecology around the world.

And of course, Dr. Conry's advocacy for women's health here in Washington, D.C. is truly exceptional. From stopping legislative interference in medical practice, to ensuring and protecting ACA coverage of contraceptives, to leading ob-gyns as they visit the Hill in March for improved care of gestational diabetes, Dr. Conry's advocacy knows no bounds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Dr. Jeanne Conry, whose devotion and leadership has advanced the improvement of women's health by leaps and bounds here in the United States and abroad.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO  
REQUIRE THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
TO INSTALL THE D.C.  
SEAL IN THE MAIN READING  
ROOM OF THE THOMAS JEFFERSON  
BUILDING**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to require the Library of Congress



(LOC) to install the District of Columbia seal in the Main Reading Room of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the LOC. The bill calls on the Library of Congress to take the appropriate action to depict the seal of the District of Columbia on the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, where the seals of the states are depicted. Currently, the stained-glass windows contain the seals of all states and territories that existed when the building was constructed, except for the seal of the District of Columbia, whose seal was readily available at the time and should have been depicted. This omission was brought to my attention by a District resident, Luis Landau, a former docent at the Library. We are asking that this omission be corrected at the earliest time. In addition to the omission of the District of Columbia, the only currently unrepresented states from the stained-glass display are Hawaii and Alaska, but they were not states or territories when the building was constructed. The fact that these two states were not part of the Union at the time of the creation of the stained-glass windows argues for a depiction of the District seal as well, which, after all, was in fact the nation's capital at the time.

The residents of the District of Columbia have always had all the obligations of American citizenship, including paying federal taxes and service in all the nation's wars, including the War of 1812, during which the Capitol building, which then housed the Library of Congress, was burned, prompting construction of the current Library of Congress building with the state and territory seals. It is, therefore, without question that the District and its residents should receive equal treatment among the stained-glass windows that portray the history of the United States. D.C. residents deserve to have their history and American citizenship recognized.

There is existing evidence that the seal of the District of Columbia should have been depicted. The Members of Congress room in the Jefferson Building, which is not open to the public, has a painted depiction of the D.C. seal, along with state seals, on its ceiling. This precedent reinforces our request to be represented among the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, which is open to the public. There is no reason why the D.C. seal cannot be added with the planned restoration of the stained-glass. The right time to add the seal of the District of Columbia, whose residents pay full taxes and have served in all the nation's wars, like the residents of the 50 states, would be during the planned restoration.

Congress already automatically includes the District of Columbia and its residents, or has corrected the omission of the District of Columbia, when honoring the states. For example, the District of Columbia War Memorial honors District residents who served in World War I, the World War II Memorial includes a column representing the District of Columbia, the flag of the District of Columbia is displayed among the flags of the fifty states in the tunnel connecting the House office buildings to the Capitol, and D.C.'s Frederick Douglass statue now sits in the Capitol alongside the statues from the 50 states. In January of last year, the President signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, which contains language requiring the armed services to display the District of Columbia flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed.

Legislation was also enacted to give D.C. a coin after it was omitted from legislation creating coins for the 50 states. I also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the 50 states, and worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags. Inclusion of the D.C. seal, along with the seals of the states, is the next step.

I urge support of this legislation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CITIZENS OF DIANE NASH

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the events of the past month in celebration of the contributions made to our nation by African Americans, I would like to submit Diane Nash's story.

Diane Judith Nash was born on Chicago's South Side on May 15, 1938. Diane's father, Leon Nash, migrated north from Mississippi and held a clerical job in the military during World War II. Dorothy Bolton Nash, Diane's mother, also migrated north from her Tennessee birthplace. Raised by her grandmother, Carrie Bolton, until she was seven, Diane was taught to turn a blind eye toward racial injustice and strive to be a polite and accepting girl. Growing up, she attended the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament parochial school, which was operated by nuns who taught only minority students. Later she would attend public high school and go on to Washington, DC, to begin her college career at Howard University. In 1959, Diane decided to transfer to Fisk University in Nashville. It was in Nashville where she was first exposed to the full force of Jim Crow and its effect on the lives of African Americans—exclusion from restaurants, schools, and facilities common to everyday life.

After experiencing such shocking discriminatory events, Diane decided to search for a way to challenge segregation. She began attending non-violent civil disobedience workshops led by Rev. James Lawson. Rev. Lawson had studied Mahatma Gandhi's techniques of non-violent direct action and passive resistance while studying in India. By the end of her first semester at Fisk, she had become one of Rev. Lawson's most devoted disciples.

In 1960 at the age of 22, she became the leader of the Nashville sit-ins, which lasted from February to May. Unlike previous movements, which were guided by older adults, this movement was led and composed primarily of students and young people. Students would sit-in at segregated lunch counters, accepting arrest in line with non-violent principles. Diane, with JOHN LEWIS, led the protesters in a policy of refusing to pay bail. While participating in the Nashville sit-ins, Diane first met one of her fellow protestors, James Bevel, whom she would later marry and raise two children, a son and a daughter.

Diane helped found the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and quit school to lead its direct action wing. In 1961, Diane and ten fellow students were arrested in

Rock Hill, South Carolina for protesting segregation. Once jailed, they would not accept bail. Originally fearful of jail, Diane was arrested dozens of times for her activities. In 1962, although she was four months pregnant she faced a two year prison sentence for contributing to the delinquency of minors whom she had encouraged to become Freedom Riders and ride on the buses. "I believe that if I go to jail now," she wrote in an open letter, "it may help hasten that day when my child and all children will be free—not only on the day of their birth but for all their lives."

In September 1963, Diane and others were shocked by a church bombing in Birmingham which killed four young girls. After learning of this, they committed themselves to raising a non-violent army in Alabama. This plan eventually culminated in the Selma to Montgomery marches for voting rights in Alabama in early 1965. Marchers repeatedly attempted to cross the Pettus Bridge, only to be attacked by Alabama troopers armed with clubs and tear gas. The initiative culminated in the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which guaranteed the vote to citizens regardless of race. President John F. Kennedy appointed her to a national committee that prepared for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Diane also worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as an organizer, strategist, field staff person, race relations staff person, and workshop instructor. In 1965 Diane was awarded the Southern Christian Leadership Council's Rosa Parks Award for planning and carrying out the tumultuous campaign for voter registration in Selma, Alabama.

In 2003, Diane received the Distinguished American Award presented by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation. A year later, the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights was bestowed on Diane by the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum. One of her most recent honors was the award of the National Civil Rights Museum's freedom Award in 2008.

Diane Nash is an outspoken advocate of civil rights for African Americans, women, veterans and young people. She is one of the most iconic female leaders to emerge from the era now commonly known as the civil rights movement. She has spoken at countless colleges and universities, youth organizations and human rights conferences. She currently resides in Chicago, where she has worked for several decades in tenant organizing housing advocacy, and real estate. Diane's life work has been to empower young people to feel that they can bring awareness to any injustice they may be experiencing in their lives through non-violent means.

Recently, Mrs. Nash traveled to Toledo, Ohio to speak at the University of Toledo's Aspiring Young Leaders Conference. She held the young audience spellbound as she related her life's story and quest for full equality of all people in our society. At age 76, Diane Nash is inspiring the next generation and leading non-violent advancement in American society. What an incredible and rare woman is she. Thank you Mrs. Diane Nash for your brave and effective life dedicated to highest principles of human progress.

## RECOGNIZING BARBARA SHIRLEY

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Barbara Shirley, who was recently named Florida's Principal of the Year for her leadership at Alta Vista Elementary School in Sarasota, Florida.

Since becoming principal of Alta Vista in 2007, Barbara has secured private funding and recruited volunteers to expand the school's programs to provide free summer school classes to under privileged students, and educate and assist parents.

The classes help students retain what they learned during the school year and teach parents how to manage their finances, cook healthy meals and get job training.

Barbara has been offered positions at schools in more affluent neighborhoods, but chooses instead to be principal of Alta Vista, where more than 90% of the students are on free or reduced lunch and several of the students are homeless.

While many students and schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods score low on state achievement tests, Alta Vista has maintained an A rating.

I appreciate this opportunity to bring much deserved recognition to Barbara for her successful efforts to help at-risk students and their parents.

## INTRODUCING THE "MARITIME GOODS MOVEMENT ACT OF THE 21ST CENTURY"

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, Washington State's economy depends on its thriving ports. And yet, for too long, funds collected to maintain our Nation's waterways have been diverted elsewhere. In spite of urgent needs for maintenance, historically, less than half of the collected amount has actually been spent each year. As a result, American ports are struggling to make the infrastructure investments they need to support American businesses.

Since the original enactment of the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) in 1986, global shipping has undergone considerable change. Current policy incentivizes maximum use of foreign ports to import US-bound goods in order to bypass the HMT on which our ports are so dependent. Annually, this amounts to \$30 million in losses to maritime infrastructure, with losses expected to increase if current trends continue. This status quo is inequitable, unsustainable and unacceptable.

Today, I introduced the Maritime Goods Movement Act of the 21st Century to address this growing state and national concern. This legislation will replace the HMT with a new user fee that will provide for the full expenditure of revenue collected to benefit waterways and freight, ensure that all US-bound cargo is treated equally regardless of point of entry, and provide federal support to address critical

freight needs at our Nation's largest ports and intermodal freight choke points.

Congress has struggled for years to ensure that our Nation's waterways are funded with little to show for its efforts. It's time to move forward with a solution that will ensure that American ports remain competitive while meeting the realities of global shipping in the future.

## RECOGNIZING THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF OCOEE

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Woman's Club of Ocoee, a chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), for 90 years of volunteer service to the Central Florida community. The Club, organized in 1924, aims "to associate its members in study and efforts to advance the social, civic, educational and moral welfare of Ocoee and vicinity."

Members of the Woman's Club of Ocoee selflessly devote their time, efforts and resources to meet the needs of our community. In 2013 alone, Club members contributed more than 11,000 service hours to schools, hospitals and various community organizations.

Since its establishment in 1890, the GFWC has supported the arts, advanced education, promoted healthy lifestyles and encouraged civic involvement both domestically and internationally. Members of GFWC, whether they are advocating for congressional legislation to prevent violence against women or mentoring at-risk girls in local schools, have a "national voice and a local passion."

It is a privilege to recognize the contributions of the Woman's Club of Ocoee on this 90th anniversary. They truly demonstrate the spirit of philanthropy and volunteerism for the betterment of our community.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIM WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 70, I inadvertently voted "yea" when I intended to vote "nay."

## HONORING DR. RICHARD WESTON

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions of Dr. Richard Weston and to commemorate his retirement after more than 35 years of federal service.

As a constituent of Virginia's 8th district, Dr. Weston earned a Ph.D. in Health Policy and his dissertation was nominated for the Harold

Lasswell Prize of the American Political Science Association. Early in his career, he worked in the U.S. House of Representatives under Rep. Ralph Metcalfe, of Chicago and Rep. Bennett Stewart, also of Chicago, and in the U.S. Senate under Sen. Charles Mathias, of Maryland and Sen. Paul Trible, of Virginia.

Dr. Weston worked for the Secretary's Panel for the Evaluation of Epidemiological Research Activities and under the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health at the Department of Energy. While at the General Accounting Office, Dr. Weston worked in the Program Evaluation and Methodology Division's Health Services Research Group. He has also worked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Washington Office.

Dr. Weston counts among his career highlights an article published in the New England Journal of Medicine; and considers his work this year on the chemical release at the Freedom Industries storage tank site on the Elk River near Charleston, West Virginia among the most rewarding he has done.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Richard Weston for his dedication to improving public health, and I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his continued service.

## RECOGNIZING GRAY GAULDING

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gray Gaulding, a young man from Statesville, North Carolina. Mr. Gaulding recently piloted his NTS Motorsports Krispy Kreme/TruMoo Number 20 Chevrolet Impala to victory at Phoenix International Raceway, making him the youngest NASCAR K&N Pro Series winner ever. Gray is 15 years old.

Gray began his racing career on dirt bikes at the age of three. Once he found his way onto four wheels, he won an incredible 17 of the first 27 races he competed in on the youth development level. He has since amassed numerous wins on Bandolero, Legend and Super Late Model racing circuits throughout the Southeast.

I wish Gray Gaulding well as he chases the checkered flag and the championship in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East this year. North Carolina's Fifth Congressional district is proud to be the home of this fine young man and I look forward to a bright future for this remarkable young racecar driver.

## RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JENNA TOSH

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Jenna Tosh. Jenna is the President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater Orlando (PPGO), a non-profit provider of reproductive

healthcare and education serving more than 30,000 Central Floridians. Jenna's background is in social work and teen pregnancy prevention. She previously served in Child Protective Services and as PPGO's Director of Education.

Jenna's accomplishments as President and CEO include implementing paperless medical records, expanding access to care for Medicaid and safety net populations, and adding new clinical services. She has expanded access to PPGO evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs throughout Central Florida. PPGO's education programs have been credited for contributing to a 35% reduction in teen pregnancies in Orange County.

Jenna attended the University of Florida where she received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. She holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Central Florida (UCF), where she is also pursuing her Ph.D. in Public Affairs, Governance, and Policy Research. Jenna's dissertation research focuses on the impact of state policies restricting adolescents' access to reproductive health services on teen pregnancy outcomes.

A New York native, Jenna was raised on Long Island, and moved to Central Florida in 2001. Her husband Andrew is a Titusville native and UCF graduate. He founded a gaming and simulation company, GameSim, in 2007. They have a 4-year-old son, and live in Winter Park, where they attend First Congregational Church.

In addition to her work for Planned Parenthood, Jenna serves on the Orange County Healthy Start Board of Directors, the Equality Florida Political Action Committee Board, and the Board of the First Congregational Church Preschool & Kindergarten.

I am happy to honor Jenna Tosh, during Women's History Month, for her service to the Central Florida community.

#### TEMPORARY DEBT LIMIT EXTENSION ACT, S. 540

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, which suspends the current statutory limit on federal borrowing until March 15th, 2015. This crucial legislation effectively increases the debt limit by \$1.2 trillion, ending the Republican manufactured crises, and includes \$2.2 trillion in deficit reduction according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, without cutting Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid. I want to commend House Republican leadership for bringing this legislation to the floor for a vote, which represents a dramatic shift since the disastrous debt ceiling brinkmanship we saw in the summer of 2011.

The 2011 debt limit "crisis" was a political choice—a dangerous and irresponsible political stunt—manufactured by Tea Party Republicans in Congress to prevent President Obama and Congress from focusing on top priorities like job creation and strengthening the economy. As we now know, these reckless actions had real consequences for our economy and global financial markets. Studies by the non-partisan Government Accountability

Office (GAO) and the Bipartisan Policy Center found that delays in raising the debt limit in 2011 cost taxpayers approximately \$19 billion over ten years in higher government borrowing costs. Consumer confidence plummeted, suffering the largest monthly decline (59.2 to 44.5) during the month of August that year, which was the most since the 2008 financial crisis. In addition, a Bloomberg survey of economists found that the debt limit brinkmanship "almost derailed the recovery." Lastly, a recent survey of the world's top economists by the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business found that 84 percent agreed that failure to raise the debt limit in a timely manner creates unneeded uncertainty and could significantly damage our financial markets. Although I am pleased that House Leadership has chosen not to repeat the same mistakes from 2011, it is worrying to see that the majority of House Republicans still oppose raising the debt limit, considering the economic damage they caused three years ago.

The legislation before us today is supported by a broad array of business leaders, including the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Roundtable, and American Bankers Association. Lastly, Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellen recently testified that failing to raise the debt limit would be "catastrophic" for the global economy. As our country continues to recover from the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, it is Congress' duty to avoid any unnecessary brinkmanship that risks plunging our economy back into a recession.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Temporary Debt Limit Extension Act.

#### COMMENDING CHINA FOR CALLING UPON JAPAN TO "FACE UP TO HISTORY" REGARDING "COM- FORT WOMEN" ISSUE

#### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend China for calling upon Japan to "face up to history" for forcing women and girls, many from countries including China, the Republic of Korea, Southeast Asia, and Pacific Islands, to sexually serve Japanese soldiers during World War II.

For too long Japan's government has tried to downplay and deny the crimes of its Imperial military. Such defiance goes against human conscience. How Japan chooses to face its past will determine how it goes into the future. Its history must not be forgotten and must not be denied and distorted.

I stand with China in urging the Japanese government to acknowledge its history and apologize for it with concrete actions that will win the trust of its Asian neighbors and the international community. I also commend the Chinese Foreign Ministry for denouncing Japan's enslavement of these women and young girls during World War II as "a serious crime against humanity."

I am appreciative of the work of Congressman MIKE HONDA and former Congressman Lane Evans for introducing bills calling upon Japan to apologize. As Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global

Environment, the first hearing I ever held was about this issue. The hearing, held on February 15, 2007, was the first time a hearing on this issue had ever been held in the history of the U.S. Congress, and I will always be grateful for the three women who testified.

Three survivors—Ms. Yong Soo Lee, Ms. Jan Ruff O'Herne and Ms. Koon Ja Kim—bravely testified before the Subcommittee and, consequently, their first-hand accounts of their suffering will stand forevermore on the official record of the Subcommittee as a witness against the abhorrent actions of the Japanese Imperial Armed Forces. After hearing the testimony of these three women, I have never been the same. I will never rest until justice is served.

And so, I commend my close colleague, Congressman MIKE HONDA, a Japanese-American, who also personally testified at the hearing about H. Res. 121, a resolution he introduced calling upon Japan to acknowledge, apologize and accept historical responsibility for its Imperial Armed Forces' coercion of young women into sexual slavery. H. Res. 121, which I co-sponsored, subsequently passed the House on July 30, 2007. I believe it passed because of the three survivors who testified as witnesses.

Regrettably, Japan is again about the business of trying to whitewash its crimes. But, it is my sincere hope that the international community will hold Japan accountable and insist on a formal apology. In this cause, all peaceful nations should hold together and this is why, once more, I publicly commend China for urging Japan to "face up to its history."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ANTHONY J. ZIDICH

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Anthony J. Zidich for his 42 years of remarkable and professional service as the City Treasurer of Daly City. Tony is setting a record as the longest-serving elected official in the city's history. His perseverance, open-door policy and love of people, politics and baseball have made him a beloved institution in Daly City.

Tony was appointed City Treasurer of Daly City in December 1971 to fill the unexpired term of Joseph Lewkowicz and he assumed office the following January. He was then elected eleven consecutive times. Before that, he served on the Daly City Recreation Commission for two years. Under Tony's leadership, the Daly City treasury has been well safeguarded. In recent years, it was fashionable for some public treasurers to imagine themselves as miniature versions of Wall Street bankers. And many of these agencies suffered greatly during the Great Recession. Daly City stood up well because Tony had prudently managed the city's funds and decided to leave Wall Street banking to self-declared geniuses who, as history has since proven, were not as smart as Tony Zidich. The real genius of Tony Zidich is quite simple: He gets the job done in good times and bad, through thick and thin, and with complete integrity.

Tony was a founding member of the board of directors of the supporters of the Doelger

Senior Center and continues to be its treasurer. During Tony's stewardship, Doelger has been a major institution in the city, offering senior programming, space for community events and classes of various types. A good treasurer is essential for any long-time community program and Doelger and its seniors can count on Tony to ensure that the money raised by this volunteer organization is always safe and available to support its programs.

Tony's public service is not limited to Daly City, however. He has also served on numerous boards, committees and clubs, including the board of Bay Meadows and Los Alamitos race tracks, the San Mateo County Treasurer's Advisory Board, the Daly City Police Athletic League and the Daly City Credit Union. There is a theme in Tony's service: Building fiscal and human resources to support the future.

In addition to his long and outstanding public service, Tony is a well-known realtor in Daly City. That job has earned him the trust of residents who refer to him as the "go to guy." He can tell residents the history of nearly every block of Daly City. His stories about Daly City are always entertaining and offer tremendous insights into the evolution of this remarkable community. In his office, Tony proudly displays his collection of memorabilia and toys and will engage anyone in a conversation about city politics, city history or baseball.

Tony grew up in San Francisco's Potrero Hill neighborhood. He attended Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep where his passion for baseball thrived. Known as "Babe" for his skills on the field, he was later inducted into the school's Sports Hall of Fame.

Tony joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in San Francisco during the Korean War. He met the love of his life at a dance at the Presidio. Carole Williams and Tony married in 1956 and raised their beautiful and intelligent daughter Debra in Daly City.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Anthony Zidich, an extraordinary public servant, businessman and humanitarian whose energy, enthusiasm and expertise have enriched the lives of all Daly City residents. He will be greatly missed at City Hall, but if anyone comes to Daly City and wants to play ball, they'd better go see Tony first. He knows all of the players in the city, and he will freely offer game-changing advice to all who seek to build a better future for his beloved community of Daly City.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JASON BLANKENSHIP

#### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Jason Blankenship, a constituent who was tragically taken from us last fall.

A Texan by birth, Jason made Albuquerque his home. For over ten years, Jason gave back to the community as a staff member at the University of New Mexico, including several years in Human Resources and scientific research.

A Ph.D. by education, Jason most recently put his talents to work at UNM's Center on Al-

coholism, Substance Abuse and Addictions, where he served as research scientist and member of a team advancing the field of study of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. This was more than just a job to Jason. He was passionate about his research and truly believed in its ability to improve the lives of those suffering from these diseases.

Even though he was engaged in such important work at UNM, Jason always found time to give back to the Albuquerque community, most notably through the Make-a-Wish Foundation where he took great pride in being a "wish granter" to children with tragic illnesses.

He was loved by all for his wonderful personality, his thoughtfulness, his dedication, self-discipline and loyalty. Colleagues and fellow researchers remember Jason as kind, generous and highly skilled. Jason truly believed that the results of his research could positively impact the world around him. At just 43 years old, Jason was taken from us far too soon.

Mr. Speaker, may the life of Dr. Jason Blankenship serve as an inspiration to us all as we work to improve not just ourselves but the community around us.

#### BATTLING FOR BOBBY—MORE- HEAD WRESTLES ITS WAY TO A STATE CROWN

#### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, in sports, when a team is motivated by some outside cause, it can be difficult to defeat. When that team is determined to reach its goal because of a stricken leader, it can be unstoppable.

That is exactly how to describe the wrestling team at Morehead High School in Rockingham County, North Carolina. I am proud to say that the Morehead Panthers, who call the Sixth District of North Carolina home, recently won the 3A State Dual Team Wrestling Championship.

The Panthers had a theme all season: "Battling for Bobby." The aforementioned Bobby is Bobby Stewart, the former wrestling coach and Morehead's current athletic trainer who was diagnosed with leukemia. Prior to the championship bout, the team unveiled warm-up shirts that read "Battling for Bobby" on the front and "Taking Down Cancer" on the back.

The shirts worked because on February 8, 2014, Morehead defeated Fred T. Foard High School 33–28 to capture the state wrestling championship in the 3A Class. Bobby Stewart's illness focused the team all season as the Panthers compiled a 38–1 season on their way to a state crown. Morehead senior wrestler Payton Mills, who was named the championship's Most Outstanding Wrestler and won the opening match, gives much of the credit to Coach Stewart. "If it weren't for Bobby," Mills told the Reidsville Review, "I wouldn't currently be wrestling at all, let alone winning Most Outstanding Wrestler of the state duals. Mainly, I wanted to do everything I could to help my team win a state championship for Bobby because he's been such a huge influence on how I live my life today."

First-year Head Coach Daniel Bradford also told the Rockingham County newspaper that

the Panthers seemed to be a team of destiny. "This is what we work toward all season," Bradford said, "and it's great to see all of that work pay off like this. I knew coming into this season that we had a very strong lineup, with a lot of great wrestlers. But it was more than that. It was a lot of great men. From the very first tournament of the year, I knew we were going to be tough and the only goal for us was to have a chance to win this title."

Coach Bradford will be the first to tell you that it took the entire team to win the state championship. Members of the squad included Alex Bailey, Gideon Biggs, George Blackstock, Willis Booth, Tyler Bruins, Ben Bullins, Will Dabbs, Tyler Dabbs, Zane Hairston, Tylon Hodges, Steven Holland, Mike Jones, Jordan Jones, Dylan Jones, Jadakiss Jumper, Henrik Kummert, Payton Mills, Marqe Mills, Tyshawn Olverson, John Phillips, William Pryor, Cameron Sanders, Christian Santos, Jordan Servie, Wesley Strader, Dylan Willey, Tim Woods, and Alex Villa.

Aiding Coach Bradford in guiding the Panthers to the top included assistant coaches Marty White, Terry Mason, Chris Higgs, Chris Johnson, David Barker, and Robbie Horton. Team doctors Kevin Howard and John Dabbs, along with team trainers Bobby Stewart and Darrell Carter, made sure the Panthers overcame any injuries or illnesses on the path to glory.

The Morehead Wrestlerettes made sure the Panthers heard the crowd cheering them on to victory. The Wrestlerettes included Hope Booth, Anne Fitts, Rachel Gallardo, Destiny Smith, and Hannah Thompson, along with their sponsors Donna Gallardo and Shiela Thompson, and Booster Club president Carl Booth.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Principal Al Royster, Jr., Athletic Director Jason Tuggle, and the faculty, staff, and students of Morehead High School for winning the 3A State Dual Team Wrestling Championship. The Panthers said they were "Battling for Bobby" and they lived up to that motto all the way to the top.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. GWENDOLYN LOUISE MCCORD HANKERSON

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Gwendolyn Louise McCord Hankerson, who sadly passed away on February 13, 2014.

Born in White Springs, Florida to the late William Quinton McCord and the late Allie Mae King McCord, Gwen dedicated her life to giving back to her community. A graduate of Dillard High School's Class of 1949, she went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Education from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina in 1953.

Gwen taught third grade at Carver Ranches Elementary School and later became the first principal of Dillard High Community School. In addition, she worked at numerous schools throughout the county, such as Lauderdale Manors, Nova Blanche Forman, and Norfolk Elementary.

After retiring from Broward County Public Schools in the mid 1980s, she taught at Phyllis Wheatley Elementary in the Dade County School System. Building on her teaching career, she received her Master's Degree in Education from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, Florida, as well as a Doctorate in Social Psychology and Physiology from Eastern Pennsylvania University.

Gwen made many significant contributions to her community through her passion for education. As a pioneer change agent, she was "the first" many times over in the political realm. Gwen was the first African American appointed to the Judicial Selection Board by Governor Lawton Chiles, the first African American appointed to the Personnel Advisory Board by Commissioner John Hart, the first African American female to run for office in the City of Lauderdale Lakes, the first female swimming coach for Dillard High School, and the first principal of Dillard High Community School.

When Gwen retired, she continued to be a staunch educational advocate. She was one of the founding members and one of the original incorporators of the Sistrunk Historical Festival and the Lalee Terrace Rebuild Foundation. Furthermore, Gwen founded the Broward Branch of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

She initiated the Elders Council of the African American Research Library and Cultural Center to gather stories about African American pioneers of Broward County for her book entitled, *Across the Tracks*. Additionally, Gwen was a board member for the Literacy Coalition of Broward County, chairperson of the Lauderdale Lakes School Advisory Board, Vice President of the Northwest Democratic Executive Board, Treasurer of the Pride of Fort Lauderdale Elks Lodge, Temple #395, a member of the Order of Eastern Stars, an advisor to the Dillard High School Alumni & Friends Association, Inc., and a member of the Planning and Zoning Board for Broward County.

Gwen was the recipient of numerous awards and honors. In 2011, she received the Rosa Parks Award and the Mildred Hastings Tenacity Award, which was named in honor of my late mother.

A long-time member and officer of Mount Hermon AME Church, Gwen had the very first wedding there on June 11, 1954. She was happily married to Tommie Lee for almost 60 years. She is survived by her husband; four adult children, Charles Holiday, Sr., Kenneth Hankerson, Sr., Evangelist Allison Hankerson-Harris, and Attorney Terri Lynn Hankerson; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, the Hankerson family and friends, our nation, Florida, and Broward County have lost a remarkable person who made life better for humankind.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3865, STOP TARGETING OF POLITICAL BELIEFS BY THE IRS ACT OF 2014; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2804, ALL ECONOMIC REGULATIONS ARE TRANSPARENT ACT OF 2014; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the rule governing debate for H.R. 2804, the "All Economic Regulations Are Transparent Act of 2014," the so-called "ALERRT Act."

H.R. 2804 makes numerous changes to the federal rule-making process, including: (1) requiring agencies to consider numerous new criteria when issuing rules, such as alternatives to rules proposals; (2) requiring agencies to review the "indirect" costs of proposed and existing rules; (3) giving the Small Business Administration expanded authority to intervene in the rule-making of other agencies; and (4) requiring federal agencies to file monthly reports on the status of their rule-making activities.

I cannot support this legislation in its present form for two reasons, one procedural and one substantive.

Procedurally, I oppose the bill because in its present form it was never considered by the Judiciary Committee. This bill was reported by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on a party line 19–15 vote but was not acted on by Judiciary Committee.

As reported, the bill contained only provisions relating to monthly reporting requirements regarding agency rule-making.

But the bill being brought to the floor now includes three additional and very controversial Judiciary bills (H.R. 2122, Regulatory Accountability Act; H.R. 1493, Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act; and H.R. 2542, Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act).

This is not the way to legislate on matters that have such serious consequences for the public health and safety.

Substantively, I oppose the underlying bill this rule makes in order because it imposes uneeded and costly analytical and procedural requirements on agencies that would prevent them from performing their statutory responsibilities to protect the public health and safety.

I oppose the bill also because it creates unnecessary regulatory and legal uncertainty, increases costs for businesses and State, local and tribal governments, and impedes common-sense protections for the American public.

Mr. Speaker, the bill is unnecessary and invites frivolous litigation. When a federal agency promulgates a regulation, it already must adhere to the requirements of the statute that it is implementing.

Agencies already must adhere to the robust and well-understood procedural requirements of federal law, including the Administrative Procedure Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act

(RFA), the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), and the Congressional Review Act.

Regulatory agencies already are required to promulgate regulations only upon a reasoned determination that the benefits of the regulations justify the costs and to consider regulatory alternatives. Final regulations are subject to review by the federal courts which, among other things, examine whether agencies have satisfied the substantive and procedural requirements of all applicable statutes.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2804 in its current form does not include an exemption for rules promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security to protect the safety of the American people and the security of our country.

For this reason, I offered an amendment that provides this important exception and I thank the Rules Committee for making it in order.

The security of the homeland is one of the most preeminent concerns of the federal government. The increased need for national security following the attacks of September 11th makes it important that the Department of Homeland Security not be unduly impeded in the promulgation of rules that may preempt attacks against our nation.

Unnecessary delays to rules set forth by the Department of Homeland Security can waste scarce resources that keep our nation safe as well as impede the regular operations of the agency.

I urge all Members to support the Jackson Lee Amendment to H.R. 2804.

THE REDUCE EXPENDITURES IN NUCLEAR INVESTMENTS NOW (REIN-IN) ACT OF 2014

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Reduce Expenditures in Nuclear Investments Now (REIN-IN) Act of 2014. The bill would save \$100 billion over the next 10 years by reducing or eliminating unnecessary nuclear weapons programs. Senator EDWARD J. MARKEY (D-MA) has introduced companion legislation in the Senate, the SANE Act.

We must significantly reduce U.S. spending on nuclear weapons, delivery systems, and related programs. Today, the United States spends more in this arena than it did at the height of the Cold War. A recent report from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that between 2014 and 2023, the costs of the Administration's plans for nuclear forces will total \$470 billion. Other estimates come close to \$700 billion, which is more than the federal government will spend on education over the next five years. Worse, there are plans in the works to spend billions of dollars modernizing our nuclear stockpile of missiles, submarines, and bombers, committing us to decades more of waste.

We need to change direction.

My legislation will make the nation safer. The large number of high-alert weapons we have now leaves dangerous room for human error. For example, in August 2007, a B–52

flew cross-country while unknowingly carrying six nuclear-armed, air-launched missiles. Just last month, the Air Force had to suspend 92 launch officers—or missileers—at Malmstrom Air Force Base, MT, where a drug investigation also uncovered that missileers may have been cheating on proficiency exams. The REIN-IN Act, which is supported by over two dozen organizations, will increase Americans' safety by cutting the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles currently on 24-hour high alert from 450 to 150.

We don't need an expensive stockpile of nuclear weapons that will never use to create a prosperous and secure society. As costs for our nation grow, there are areas where we can cut spending. The first place we should start is with our unnecessary and expensive spending on nuclear weapons that are more suited for the Cold War than the strategic challenges we face today.

I look forward to working with the President and Congress to pass the REIN-IN Act, which will not only reduce overall spending, but reprioritize investments that will actually make the United States safer, more livable, and economically secure.

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HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY  
OF MR. AL H. CHESSE

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Al H. Chesser, President Emeritus of the United Transportation Union, a lifetime advocate for his brothers and sisters in labor, and my dear and wonderful friend.

I've had the blessing of working with Al for decades as he advocated and fought for the rights of countless workers throughout his career. His knowledge of the needs of our nation's workers and our labor laws, as well as his experience in the often delicate workings of Congress and our legislative process, made

Al one of the most respected and relied-on leaders of the labor movement.

He began his work life in 1935, becoming a clerk at a Kroger grocery store in Kansas. He then went on to represent the Trainmen and then UTU, and served as a Vice President of the AFL-CIO's executive council, as well as Chairman of their Constitution Committee. Hard work and long hours have followed Al since that first grocery store clerk job, and—through his dedication—our workplaces are safer and work quality has improved. He has spent his life making the rights and best interests of others his own, and to this day the lasting mark he's left on each and every worker and legislator he has encountered remains. I am proud to consider Al to be one of the most honorable and fine men I have had the blessing to work with, whether we were taking time just to speak as friends or working together to solve a rail strike.

I'm proud to recognize my dear friend Al Chesser as he is joined by friends and family in celebrating his 100 years of life on March 1, 2014, and I look forward to many more years of friendship.

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RECOGNITION OF THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF POGROMS AGAINST ARMENIANS IN SUMGAIT

**HON. TONY CÁRDENAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 27, 2014*

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the twenty-sixth anniversary of pogroms against people of Armenian descent in Sumgait, Azerbaijan, and call for long-overdue justice.

On February 27th 1988, Sumgait was the scene for organized anti-Armenian violence, leading to the death of more than thirty Armenians, with hundreds more gravely injured. Armenians were attacked and maimed for three days. Despite Baku's 30-minute proximity to Sumgait, police failed to react, allowing the brutality to continue.

This brutality took many forms and was well-documented. On May 22nd 1988, The New York Times reported Armenians being "hunted" down and gave an account of a pregnant Armenian woman who had been disembowelled so that the unborn baby could be mutilated. Two months earlier, The Washington Post gave accounts of an Armenian skinned alive and a woman being raped and murdered after her breasts were cut off. These atrocities were highlighted by the Members of Congress at the time, who condemned this state-sponsored massacre against Armenian civilians.

The failure to act by the Azerbaijani authorities and our failure to compel action has resulted in a tidal wave of animosity towards the Armenians, which manifests itself in several ways. Azerbaijani forces east of Karabagh continue to disregard the ceasefire established after the Karabagh war in 1994. Ramil Safarov, who decapitated an Armenian Lieutenant while he slept during a NATO-sponsored training program in 2004, returned home as a hero and was held up as "an example of patriotism for the Azerbaijani youth" by the Commissioner for Human Rights of Azerbaijan, Elmira Suleymanova. All the while, Ilham Aliyev continues his brazen rhetoric; consistently declaring Armenians as the national enemy in an effort to unite the Azeri public.

The hatred towards the Armenians is unrelenting, even at the expense of the freedom of their own people. When 75 year old Alcam Ayslisi—one of Azerbaijan's most celebrated writers—had the temerity to consider the conflict from an unbiased perspective, he was subjected to a witch hunt that would not have looked out of place in medieval Europe. His books were burnt. He was stripped of his national literary awards, and, most worryingly, a high ranking politician had promised \$13,000 to anyone who could cut off his ear.

I call upon all of my colleagues and fellow Americans to join me in condemning the continued violence and injustice, and continue efforts to ensure that these atrocities never repeat themselves.